



IFMSA

International Federation of
Medical Students' Associations

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Accreditation of regional non-State actors to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

The International Federation of Medical Students' Associations would like to highlight once again the importance of partnerships when it comes to achieving health for all.

Therefore, we highly welcomed the process of implementation of the accreditation process for regional non-state actors last year. 19 applications of Non-State-Actors working on health issues in the European Region show the huge interest and motivation of civil societies working together in partnership - with all parties involved.

A subgroup of civil societies are student organizations and youth groups. They represent a demographic group that is often left out from the discussion when it comes to health and wellbeing.

The changes we make today will have the biggest effect on future generations: Most of the risk factors causing NCD-related deaths start in adolescence, suicide remains a leading cause of death among people aged 15-29, and the effects of climate change take the biggest toll on the health of youth.

Therefore, achieving health for all will rely on the commitments made for and more importantly together with youth. In the recent past, youth has taken important steps towards achieving health for all. Some of which are: the creation of an IFMSA Social Accountability Toolkit, medical students in France reforming clinical years of their studies, and medical students playing an indispensable role in the inclusion of the right to health in the Paris Agreement.

Imagine what youth could achieve if they would have the full support of their governments and meaningful inclusion in all processes that affect them?

Youth delegates haven't proven to be an efficient model to nurse youth participation in many UN entities already. Few of the present member states, however, are already involving youth in their delegations and preparations for WHO meetings.

Therefore, we express our hope that youth delegates will become a standard practice in the future for all member states. We as IFMSA renew our commitment towards more inclusion of youth in all processes and invite all member states for further discussion on how to set up their own youth delegate systems and other effective measures to build a meaningful partnership with youth.